CLAIMS

1. A communication system, comprising at least one communication device and at least one central data processing device, the at least one communication device being connected to the at least one central data processing device via a network, wherein the at least one central data processing device executes at least one communication application, overlapping data being provided which are accessed by at least one of the at least one communication device and the at least one communication application, and wherein at least some of the overlapping data are stored at one place in the communication system which is accessed by the at least one communication device and the at least one communication application or at least two communication devices.

2. A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the overlapping data are stored in a central database.

3. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein all overlapping data are stored in the central database and each communication device and each communication application access the central database when utilizing the overlapping data.

4. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the central database is implemented in the at least one central data processing device.

5. A communication system as claimed in claim 4, wherein a first central access device for controlling access from outside the data processing device to the central database is provided in the at least one central data processing device.

6. A communication system as claimed in claim 4, wherein a first local access device for controlling access of the communication device to the central database is provided in the at least one communication device.

7. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the central database is implemented in the at least one communication device.

8. A communication system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a second central access device for controlling access of a communication application to the central database is provided in the at least one central data processing device.

9. A communication system as claimed in claim 7, wherein a second local access device for controlling access from outside the communication device to the central database is provided in the at least one communication device.

10. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the central database is encapsulated.

11. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein a local database for storing data which exclusively relate to operation of the data processing device is implemented in the at least one central data processing device.

12. A communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein a local database for storing data which exclusively relate to operation of the communication device is implemented in the at least one communication device.

13. A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network is an IP-oriented network.

14. A communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication device is a private communication installation.